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EXAMINER
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2132	

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

-- *The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address* --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *12 June 2007*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *33-46* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *33-46* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   This office action is in response to applicants' response filed on 06/12/2007.

2.   Claims 33-46 are pending.

3.   Claims 1-32 are cancelled.

4.   Claims 41-46 are new.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claim 33 have been considered but are

moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly
claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim 43 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite

for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant

regards as the invention.

Claim 43 recites the limitation "the station" in line 2. There is insufficient

antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 33-46 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sharma et al (2002/0068559 A1; hereinafter Sharma) in view of Albert et al (2003/0177389 A1; hereinafter Albert) and further in view of Nordstrom et al (7,136,907 B1; hereinafter Nordstrom).

Regarding claim 33, Sharma discloses:

A method for managing a computer system including a computing node and one or more mobile devices (see, for example, abstract; [0010]-[0012]), comprising:

running a discovery program to detect one or more mobile devices or resources (see, for example, [0061]-[0062]; [0066]-[0067]);

determining information regarding one or more mobile devices or resources based on at least one of a registry resource, a file resource, a process resource, a network management parameter, a data format, a packet format, a synchronization log entry, a directory structure, a database entry, the presence of an executable program and attributes associated with a mobile device or resource (see, for example, [0020]; [0039]; [0047]; [0064]).

Sharma, however, does not expressly disclose:

using the determined mobile device information for managing security of the computer system from the network side of the network connection.

Albert discloses:

using the determined mobile device information to manage security of the

computer system from the network side of the network connection (see, for example,

Figs. 3 & 4; [0024]; [0071]-[0072]).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to implement in the system of Sharma, a mechanism to use the

information of a mobile device connecting to the network to manage the security of a

computer system as taught in Albert, because it would be helpful to regulate access to a

computer system (Albert, [0024]).

Sharma in view of Albert does not expressly disclose that detecting mobile

devices or resources previously, but not currently, connected to the network.

Nordstrom discloses a system for dynamically informing an operating system of a

distributed computer system, when a (new) device is added on the network (col. 1, lines

60-67; col. 2, lines 18-21). Nordstrom also discloses that the invented system is capable

of discovering a device that has previously been connected to the network (col. 2, lines

60-67).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at

the time the invention was made to implement in the system of Sharma in view of

Albert, a scheme to also detect the devices that have been connected to network

previously as taught in Nordstrom, because the information about the devices that have

been connected to the network at a time period in the past could be used in the

evaluation and management of the computing system security.

Regarding claim 34, Sharma discloses:

The method of claim 33 further including scanning the computer system based

on a scan profile to detect the one or more mobile devices (see, for example, [0021],

where the configuration data corresponds to the recited profile; [0027]; [0113]).

Regarding claim 35, Sharma discloses:

The method of claim 33, wherein the discovery program is run in at least one of a

remote central station or a local computing node (see, for example, [0010]; [0091]).

Regarding claim 36, Sharma discloses:

The method of claim 33 further including grouping the located mobile devices or

resources by type and other attribute (see, for example, [0059]; [0062]).

Regarding claim 37, Sharma discloses:

The method of claim 34, wherein the scan profile contains information regarding

at least one of network, domain, IP address, netmask, and computer identity to be

scanned, time of synchronization and device connection (see, for example, [0076]).

Regarding claim 38, Sharma discloses:

The method of claim 34, wherein the scan profile contains information regarding

at least one of network, domain, IP address, netmask, and computer identity not to be

scanned (see, for example, [0076]; [0090]; [0140]-[0141]).

Regarding claim 39, Sharma discloses:

The method of claim 34, wherein the results of scanning are analyses and

populated and stored and displayed to the users (see, for example, [0022]; [0034];

[0059]).

Note: Examiner assumed "analyzed" instead of the word "analyses" above due to

a typo (see specification, page 6, lines 20-21).

Regarding claim 40, Sharma discloses:

The method of claim 33, wherein the gather mobile device information include at

least one of device type, device identity, synchronization software type, synchronization

software availability, synchronization software location, synchronization software

version number, previous synchronization information, data and time of last

synchronization, the type of device used during previous synchronization,

synchronization ID, device owner information, type of applications and files installed or

used on the mobile device, file size, file name, file attribute, manufacturer information,

time of all completed and incomplete synchronization and data access and connections

performed, type of data and information transferred to and from a mobile device and a

resource (see, for example, [0022]; [0030]; [0038]; [0059]; [0090]).

Regarding claims 41 and 42, Sharma discloses:

The method of claim 33, further comprising at least one of locking and

denying access to an unauthorized mobile device attempting to access the computer

system (see, for example, [0007], lines 18-20; [0010]; [0024], where management of

assets and devices implies that the security system also would block an unauthorized

device(s) to connect to the network as it is a well known practice in the art; [0065]).

Regarding claims 43 and 44, Sharma discloses:

The method of claim 42, wherein the locking step comprises

transmitting security software to the station (see [0004]; [0022]; [0044]; [0063]).

Regarding claim 45, Sharma discloses:

The method of claim 33, wherein the discovery program is run locally

at the computing node (see [0027]; [0033]).

Regarding claim 46, Sharma discloses:

The method of claim 33, wherein the step of running the discovery

program results in detection of at least one of a device type, connection profile, or

location of at least one of the mobile devices and resource devices (see [0022]; [0058];

[0059]).

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

US Patent Application Pub. No. 2002/0120599 A1 to Knouse et al.

US Patent Application Pub. No. 2004/0019807 A1 to Freund et al.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Abdulhakim Nobahar whose telephone number is 571-272-3808. The examiner can normally be reached on M-T 8-6.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gilberto Barron can be reached on 571-272-3799. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

August 7, 2007   Abdulhakim Nobahar
                                              Examiner, Art Unit 2132

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